

OVER NIAGARA FALLS

Fate of a Schooner That Was Used as an Experiment.

SHE WAS DASHED TO PIECES.

A Thrilling Slight From the Time She Struck the Seething Rapids Until the Mighty Falls Tore Her into Splinters—A Pair of Tough Geese.

The following story of the first public excursion to Niagara Falls was written at the time by an eyewitness: "The schooner Michigan was the largest vessel on Lake Erie at that time. She was too large, in fact, to enter the various harbors on the lake, and, being somewhat decayed in her upper, the owner, Major Frazer, got the idea that she would answer the purpose of testing the fate of a vessel that by accident might approach too near the cataract and also the fate of living things that might be caught in the rapids. The proprietors of the large public houses at the falls on both sides of the river and of stages and steamboats made up a purse to purchase the schooner, aware that they would be amply repaid by the spectators that the exhibition would attract.

"For several days previous to Sept. 6, 1828, the day for which the affair was fixed, which was Saturday, the stages and canalboats came to Buffalo crowded with people. On the night of Sept. 5 wagons filled with country people rattled through the village in unbroken procession all night long, and on the morning of Sept. 6 Buffalo itself seemed to be moving in one mass toward the point of attraction. Five steamboats had been advertised to leave Buffalo Saturday morning. They were the Henry Clay, William Penn, Pioneer, Niagara and Chippewa. The Chippewa was appointed to tow the schooner Michigan to the Niagara river. I was a passenger on her.

"As soon as we got well under way the scene became interesting. The other four steamers came plowing along in our wake, crowded to the guards with passengers and bands of music playing. The Chippewa towed the big schooner to Yale's landing, on the Canada side of the Niagara river, where our passengers went ashore, as did those of the William Penn. The passengers of the Henry Clay and Pioneer landed on the American side. Yale's Landing was three miles above the falls, and the crowds of people were taken from there on down the river in wagons of all kinds. The hour fixed for towing the Michigan from Yale's Landing to the rapids was 3 in the afternoon.

"This task, an extremely hazardous one, was entrusted to the oldest sailor on the lake, Captain Rough. With a yawl boat and five sturdy oarsmen the old captain got the schooner under way. They towed her to within a quarter of a mile of the first rapids and within half a mile of the tremendous precipice itself—as near as they dared approach. They cut the big vessel adrift, and she passed majestically on, while the oarsmen of the yawl had to bend their every nerve and muscle to remove themselves from the peril of being drawn down by the rushing waters. Indeed, such had been the fear and apprehension of the men that they mutinied against Captain Rough and

cut the towline before the time he had set. If they had obeyed the reckless old captain, he, the yawl and its crew would have preceded the Michigan over the falls.

"The high grounds on both shores of the river were lined with people as the Michigan, unguided by human agency, approached, head on, the first rapid of the seething descent, apparently keeping the very course that a skillful navigator would have guided her in. The American ensign streamed from her bowsprit and the British jack floated at her stern. The vessel shot the first rapid unhurt, still head on, making a plunge, shipping a sea and rising from it in beautiful style. In her descent of the second rapid, the water momentarily increasing in velocity and tumult, her towering masts went by the board, giving the spectators a startling representation of the crashing of a vessel's spars in a shipwreck at sea. She swung around and presented her broadside to the dashing and foaming water, and, after remaining, as it seemed, stationary for a moment, swung around until she was headed upstream.

"Passing the third rapid she bilged, but carried her hull to all appearances whole as she tossed and groaned between Grass Island and the British shore to the Horseshoe fall, over which she was drawn stern foremost and hurled into the thundering abyss. She was dashed to fragments before she struck in the seething waters below. Immediately after she went over hundreds of people hurried below the falls. The river was covered with fragments of the vessel. Nowhere could be found as much as two boards nailed together, and her great timbers were broken into bits like firewood.

"There were aboard the Michigan when she started on her trip toward the falls a wild bull buffalo from a western prairie, two bears from the Lake Superior regions, two foxes, a raccoon, a dog, a cat and four geese. When the vessel left Yale's landing in tow all these were let loose on the deck except the buffalo. He was inclosed in a pen. The two bears got enough of the trip when the vessel began the descent of the first rapid, and they climbed down the side next the Canada shore, plunged into the swift water, breasted its powerful sweep successfully and reached the shore. They were so exhausted when they got on land that they made no resistance to being captured. The bears, before they abandoned the ship, climbed the masts of the vessel and, as it was presumed, from that outlook saw what their fish would be anyhow and then determined to take the chances of getting to land, slim as they were. The raccoon ran up a mast and remained there until the mast fell. He was never seen again. The foxes ran frantically up and down the deck and went over with the schooner, as did the buffalo bull and the geese. Not a trace of foxes or buffalo was ever found. Two of the geese swam ashore half a mile below the falls. The other two met the fate of the buffalo and the foxes."

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DEPORTED SEVEN TIMES. Unless Another Uncle Guarantees to Take the Lad in Charge He Will Be Sent Back Again.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20.—When Benjamin Oskrud, 16 years old, of Odessa, Russia, arrived in this country for the seventh time last November, having been deported by the immigration authorities on each of his previous arrivals as a stowaway, he was permitted to remain on representations that his uncle would take care of him. No one is again in charge of the immigration authorities on Ellis Island, who may deport him for the eighth time, his temporary guardian here requesting them to take such action, after he had had so much trouble with the lad that he is unwilling to longer keep him in charge. Success of an appeal to another uncle of Oskrud in Pittsburg to guarantee his support is said to be the only thing between the youth and another trip under the government's auspices back across the Atlantic.

ITALIAN SHOT. CHICAGO, Feb. 20.—Calvi Fortunati, who was shot in a saloon February 8 and who was spirited away from the Emergency Hospital, supposedly by "Black Hand" conspirators, was found last night in a rooming house. Detectives who found the Italian were unable to learn from him how he left the hospital, or through whose assistance. He refused to talk of the shooting in which he and Philippi Catalona figured.

It is thought that he and Catalona had quarreled over the payment for a girl that Catalona is supposed to have sold to his friend. Fortunati was found propped up in bed, surrounded by several Italians. He was taken by a policeman, although still suffering from the bullet. Catalona is at the county jail charged with shooting Fortunati.

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Will Be Issued Sunday, February 23

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PORTLAND MARKETS

Latest Quotations in the Portland Markets.

Complete Market Reports Corrected Each Day Giving the Wholesale Prices of Commodities, Farm Produce, and Vegetables.

PORTLAND, Feb. 20.—One carload of sweet potatoes came in from the South today, and this may be the last shipment to this market this season. The supply in California is very much reduced and the market firm. The product is held firmly here at \$3.50 a hundred. A car of mixed vegetables and one of celery are expected tomorrow. Celery promises to be scarce for a time as stocks in Southern California are about cleaned up.

Grain, Flour, Feed.

Wheat—Club, 83c; Valley, 85c; bluestem, 85c; red Russian, 81c. Oats—Producers' prices: White, 32c; gray, 27c. Hay—Valley timothy, 18@19; Eastern Oregon, 20@22; clover, 13; chest, 13; alfalfa, 13; grain hay, 14@15. Flour—Hard wheat, patent, 44.95; straight, 44.40; graham, 44.50; rye, 35; whole-wheat flour, 44.75; Valley flour, 44.40; Dakota, 46.40@6.60; Eastern rye, 36.50; Pillsbury, 47; Corvallis, 44.40. Rye—11.25@1.30 per cwt. Grain Bags—Domestic, 8c; Calcutta, 9c. Corn—Whole, 32c; cracked, 33c per ton. Barley—Producers' prices: Brewing, 28.50; feed, 27; rolled, 30@31. Buckwheat—30c per ton. Millfeed—City bran, 25c; country bran, 24; shorts, 24.50; country shorts, 22c; chop, 18; middlings, 22. Oregon Grapenort—Per 100 lbs., 30@37.

Cereal Foods—Rolled oats, cream, 90-lb. sacks, 88; lower grade, 85.50@7.50; oatmeal, steel cut, 49-lb. sacks, 38.50; 9-lb. sacks, 44.25 per bale; oatmeal (ground), 49-lb. sacks, 38.50 per bbl.; 9-lb. sacks, 44.50 per bale; split peas, 34.25 per 100-lb. sacks; 25-lb. boxes, 11.25; pearl barley, 44.50 per 100 lbs.; 25-lb. boxes, 11.25 per box; pastry flour, 10-lb. sacks, 35.20 bbl.

Groceries, Provisions, Etc.

Sugar (sack basis)—D. G., 35.60; XX, 35.50; best, 35.40; Golden C, 35; extra, C, 35.40; powdered, 35.50; boxes, 50 cwt. fruit or berry sugar, 35.80; boxes 50 cwt. advance over sack basis (less 3c if paid for in 15 days). Coffee—Mocha, 24@28; Java, fancy, 25@28; Java, good, 20@24; Java, ordinary, 17@20; Costa Rica, fancy, 18@20; Costa Rica, good, 16@18; Arabica, 16.63 cwt.; Lion, 15.88 cwt.; Colombia coffee, 14c lb; Salvador, 11c@14c. Rice—Imperial Japan, No. 1, 36.25; Southern Japan, 34@35c; broken, 5c; head, fancy, 7c; choice, 7c. Sage and Tapioca—Scarce, 6c. Flax—White, per pound, 6@7c; black, 6@7c. Provisions—Hams, large, 12c; small, 12c; picnic, 9c; boiled hams, 22c; boiled picnic, 18c; breakfast bacon, fancy, 22c; English, 16c; dry salted short clears, 10c; backs, 10c. Dates—Golden, 60-lb. boxes, 6@8c; 1-lb. packages, 8c; Fard, 15-lb. boxes,

Portland Markets

1.40 box. Raisins—Loose muscatels, 3-crown, 10c; 2-crown, 9c; bleached seedless Sultanias, 10@13c; unbleached seedless Sultanias, 8c; London layers, 3-crown, whole boxes of 20 pounds, 22.25; 2-crown, 22.10. Canned Salmon—Columbia River, 1-lb. talls, 22.00; 2-lb. talls, 22.95; fancy, 1-lb. flats, 22.10; 1-lb. flats, 11.50; fancy, 1-lb. ovals, 22.85; Alaska talls, pink, 95c; red, 1.35; nominal, 2a, talls, 22.25.

Salt—Bales of 75-2a, bale, 22.25; bales of 60-3a, 22.25; bales of 40-4a, bala, 22.25; bales of 15-10a, bale, 22.25; bags, 50c, fine, ton, 17.50; bags, 50c; genuine Liverpool, 22c; bags, 50c, 1 ground, 13; 100s, ton, 12.50; R. S. V. P., 20 5-lb. cartons, 22.25; R. S. V. P., 3-lb. cartons, 17.75; Liverpool lump, per ton, 20.50. Lard—Kettle-rendered, tierces, 11c; tubs, 12c; 50s, 12c; 20s, 12c; 10s, 12c; 5s, 12c. Standard pure: Tierces, 1c less; compound, tierces, 8c; leaf, 13c. Nuts—Walnuts, No. 1, soft shell, 18c; filberts, 17c; Brazils, 20c; Pecans, 19@20c; filberts, 17c; Brazils, 20c; Pecans, 23c; hickory, 8c; Virginia peanuts, 8c; Jumbo Virginia peanuts, 10c; Japanese peanuts, 7c; chestnuts, Italian 10c, Ohio 25c; coconuts, dozens, 85@90c; pine nuts, 17c.

Vegetables.

Cabbage—75c@81c; cauliflower, 75c@81c; celery, 85c@91c; parsley, 1.25; hot house lettuce, 1.00@1.25 box; heads, 65 cents dozen; spinach, box, 1.25; Brussels sprouts, 8c; artichokes, 90c@1.15 doz.; okra, 35c lb.; tomatoes, 1.25@2.00 crate; peppers, 8@14c lb.; pumpkins, 1.25 crate; beans, green and wax, 15c lb.; egg-plant, 15c lb.; beets, 1c per cwt.; turnips, 75c@81c per cwt.; carrots, 50c@81c per cwt. Peas, 10c lb.

Hops, Wool, Hides, etc.

Hops—1907 crop, 4@7c pound. Feathers—Geese, white, 35@40c; geese, gray or mixed, 25@30c; duck, white, 15@20c; duck, mixed, 12@15c. Wool—Valley, 18@20c; Eastern Oregon, 12@18c, as to shrinkage. Casaca Sagrala (chittim bark)—5c@7c per pound. Hides—Good, clean and pure, 22c 2c per pound. Tallow—Prime, 5c; No. 2 and grease, 2@8c per pound.

Fruits.

Domestic Fruits—Apples, fancy, 1.50@2.25 box; good, 75c@1.25 box; pears, 50c@1.50 box; cranberries, 88@11 per barrel. Tropical Fruits—Lemons, 35.50@5.00 box; oranges, new navels, 22.25@2.75 box; grape-fruit, 4.25 box; bananas, 6c lb.; crates, 5c lb.; pomegranates, 2c crate; tangerines, 2c box; pineapples, 4@5 dozen. Dried Fruits—Apples, 9@10c per lb.; apricots, 16@19c; peaches, 11@13c; pears, 11@14c; Italian prunes, 21@26c; California figs, white, in sacks, 5@6c per lb; black, 4@5c; briquets, 75c@2.25 per box; Smyrna, 18@20c per lb; Jates, Persian, 6@7c per lb.

Produce.

Butter—Country creamery, 30@35c; city creamery, 35@37c; store, 19@20c; butter fat, 34@36c. Eggs—Ranch, candled, 30@32c. Cheese—Young America, 18c; Oregon full cream, flats, 17c. Honey—Dury, 10@11c; amber, 12@13c; fancy white, 14@15c. Poultry—Old roosters, 9@10c lb; hens, 13@14c lb; dressed stock, 2@3c higher than live; ducks, 14@15c lb; turkeys, live, 16@17c lb; dressed, 18@20c lb; geese, live, 9@10c lb; pigeons, old, 1.00 per dozen; squabs, 2@3 per dozen.

BEHIND THE TIMES.

Banking System as at Present 50 Years Behind the Times.

CHICAGO, Feb. 20.—"The bankers in Wall Street are as honest as the farmers in Illinois," said David R. Forgan, president of the City National Bank, in his speech last night before 300 members of the Evanston and North Shore Business Men's association, which held its annual banquet in Evanston.

"Where 90 per cent of the business of a nation is conducted on a credit system, as it is in this country, confidence must be retained or a panic will follow such as was experienced here in October," said Mr. Forgan. "Credit rests on the confidence one man has in another. In New York last October this confidence was shaken for a time and the panic followed as a natural consequence. "Where one dishonest man is found in the banking business there are hundreds of others who are honest. "Our banking system was a good one when it was organized, but it is 50 years behind the times."

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February Official Tide Tables

Compiled by the U. S. Government for Astoria and Vicinity.

Table with columns for High Water, Low Water, Date, A. M., P. M., and tide heights in feet and inches for February 1908 and 1903.

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